

Amendment

In response to the Office Action dated October 12, 1999, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter and consider the following amendments and remarks in the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 10-27, and 29-149 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 9 and 28 as follows:

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9. (Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a connector for connecting [an] a detachable external device to said apparatus; and

a central processing unit comprising:

means for recognizing connection of the external device to said apparatus by said connector and recognizing a device type of the connected external device based on data stored in the external device; and

read means, responsive to said recognition means recognizing the device connection and the device type, for reading a device driver for the connected external device either from the external device through said connector or from a memory area provided in said apparatus.

wherein said [for executing] read means executes a program for loading [a] the device driver for the external device connected by said connector [from the connected external device].

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28. (Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

connector means for connecting [an] a detachable external device to said apparatus;

[and]

recognition means for recognizing connection of the external device to said apparatus by said connector means and recognizing a device type of the connected external device based on data stored in the external device; and

[loading] read means, [for loading] responsive to said recognition means recognizing the device type, for making a determination whether a device driver for the connected external device [connected by said connector means] is to be read from the connected external device through said connector means, and reading the device driver in accordance with the determination.

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Please add new Claims 150-209 as follows:

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--150. An information processing apparatus comprising:

connection means for connecting a detachable external device to said apparatus;

recognition means for recognizing connection of the external device to said apparatus by said connection means and recognizing a device type of the connected external device based on data stored in the external device; and

read means, responsive to said recognition means recognizing the device connection and the device type, for reading a device driver for the connected external device either from the external device through said connection means or from a memory area provided in said apparatus.

28

151. An apparatus according to Claim 150, further comprising control means for controlling the external device based on the device driver read by said read means.

152. An apparatus according to Claim 150, wherein said recognition means recognizes the device connection upon supplying power to said apparatus.

153. An apparatus according to Claim 150, wherein the external device comprises a random access memory card.

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154. An apparatus according to Claim 150, wherein the external device comprises a read only memory card.

155. An apparatus according to Claim 150, wherein said apparatus is a notebook personal computer.

156. An apparatus according to Claim 150, wherein said apparatus is an electronic pocket book.

157. An apparatus according to Claim 150, wherein said apparatus is an electronic camera.

158. An apparatus according to Claim 150, further comprising a memory for storing the device driver read by said read means.

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159. An information processing apparatus comprising:
connection means for connecting a detachable external device to said apparatus;
recognition means for recognizing connection of the external device to said apparatus by said connection means and recognizing a device type of the connected external device based on data stored in the external device; and
read means, responsive to said recognition means recognizing the device type, for making a determination whether a device driver for the connected external device is to be read from the external device through said connection means, and reading the device driver in accordance with the determination.

23
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160. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein said recognition means recognizes whether the device type is a first type or a second type, and said read means reads the device driver from the external device through said connection means if said recognition means recognizes that the device type is the first type.

161. An apparatus according to Claim 160, wherein said read means reads the device driver from a memory area provided in said apparatus if said recognition means recognizes that the device type is the second type.

162. An apparatus according to Claim 159, further comprising control means for controlling the external device based on the device driver read by said read means from the external device.

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163. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein said recognition means recognizes the device connection upon supplying power to said apparatus.

164. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein the external device comprises a random access memory card.

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165. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein the external device comprises a read only memory card.

166. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein said apparatus is a notebook personal computer.

167. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein said apparatus is an electronic pocket book.

168. An apparatus according to Claim 159, wherein said apparatus is an electronic camera.

169. An apparatus according to Claim 159, further comprising a memory for storing the device driver read by said read means.

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170. A method for using an information processing apparatus and a detachable external device detachably connected to the information processing apparatus by connection means, said method comprising the steps of:

recognizing connection of the external device to the information processing apparatus by the connection means;

recognizing the type of external device the connection means connects to the information processing apparatus based on data stored in the external device; and

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reading a device driver for the connected external device either from the external device through the connection means or from a memory area provided in the information processing apparatus in response to said connection recognizing step recognizing connection of the external device to the information processing apparatus and in response to said type recognizing step recognizing the type of external device connected to the information processing apparatus by the connection means.

171. A method according to Claim 170, further comprising the step of controlling the external device based on the device driver read by said reading step.

172. A method according to Claim 170, wherein said connection recognizing step recognizes the device connection upon supplying power to the information processing apparatus.

173. A method according to Claim 170, wherein the external device comprises a random access memory card.

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174. A method according to Claim 170, wherein the external device comprises a read only memory card.

175. A method according to Claim 170, wherein the information processing apparatus is a notebook personal computer.

176. A method according to Claim 170, wherein the information processing apparatus is an electronic pocket book.

177. A method according to Claim 170, wherein said apparatus is an electronic camera.

178. A method according to Claim 170, further comprising the step of storing the device driver read by said reading step in a memory.

179. A method for using an information processing apparatus and a detachable external device detachably connected to the information processing apparatus by connection means, said method comprising the steps of:

recognizing connection of the external device to the information processing apparatus by the connection means;

recognizing the type of external device the connection means connects to the information processing apparatus based on data stored in the external device;



determining whether a device driver for the connected external device is to be read from the external device through the connection means in response to said type recognizing step recognizing the type of external device connected to the information processing apparatus by the connection means; and

reading the device driver in accordance with the determination performed in said determining step.

180. A method according to Claim 179, wherein said type recognizing step recognizes whether the device type is a first type or a second type, and said reading step reads the device driver from the external device through the connection means if said type recognizing step recognizes that the device type is the first type.

181. A method according to Claim 180, wherein said reading step reads the device driver from a memory area provided in the information processing apparatus if said type recognizing step recognizes that the device type is the second type.

182. A method according to Claim 179, further comprising the step of controlling the external device based on the device driver read by said reading step from the external device.

183. A method according to Claim 179, wherein said connection recognizing step recognizes the device connection upon supplying power to the information processing apparatus.

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184. A method according to Claim 179, wherein the external device comprises a random access memory card.

185. A method according to Claim 179, wherein the external device comprises a read only memory card.

186. A method according to Claim 179, wherein the information processing apparatus is a notebook personal computer.

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187. A method according to Claim 179, wherein the information processing apparatus is an electronic pocket book.

188. A method according to Claim 179, wherein the information processing apparatus is an electronic camera.

189. A method according to Claim 179, further comprising the step of storing the device driver read by said reading step in a memory.

190. A storage medium readable by an information processing apparatus to which an external device is detachably connectable by connection means, said storage medium storing a program for controlling the operation of the information processing apparatus, the program instructing the information processing apparatus to perform the following steps:

23

recognizing connection of the external device to the information processing apparatus by the connection means;

recognizing the type of external device the connection means connects to the information processing apparatus based on data stored in the external device; and

reading a device driver for the connected external device either from the external device through the connection means or from a memory area provided in the information processing apparatus in response to said connection recognizing step recognizing connection of the external device to the information processing apparatus and in response to said type recognizing step recognizing the type of external device connected to the information processing apparatus by the connection means.

23

191. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein the program stored on said storage medium also instructs the information processing apparatus to perform the step of controlling the external device based on the device driver read by said reading step.

192. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein said connection recognizing step recognizes the device connection upon supplying power to the information processing apparatus.

193. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein the external device comprises a random access memory card.

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194. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein the external device comprises a read only memory card.

195. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein the information processing apparatus is a notebook personal computer.

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196. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein the information processing apparatus is an electronic pocket book.

197. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein said apparatus is an electronic camera.

198. A storage medium according to Claim 190, wherein the program stored on the storage medium also instructs the information processing apparatus to perform the step of storing the device driver read by said reading step in a memory.

199. A storage medium readable by an information processing apparatus to which an external device is detachably connectable by connection means, said storage medium storing a program for controlling the operation of the information processing apparatus, the program instructing the information processing apparatus to perform the following steps:
recognizing connection of the external device to the information processing apparatus by the connection means;

33
recognizing the type of external device the connection means connects to the information processing apparatus based on data stored in the external device;

determining whether a device driver for the connected external device is to be read from the external device through the connection means in response to said type recognizing step recognizing the type of external device connected to the information processing apparatus by the connection means; and

reading the device driver in accordance with the determination performed in said determining step.

33
200. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein said type recognizing step recognizes whether the device type is a first type or a second type, and said reading step reads the device driver from the external device through the connection means if said type recognizing step recognizes that the device type is the first type.

201. A storage medium according to Claim 200, wherein said reading step reads the device driver from a memory area provided in the information processing apparatus if said type recognizing step recognizes that the device type is the second type.

202. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein the program stored on said storage medium also instructs the information processing apparatus to perform the step of controlling the external device based on the device driver read by said reading step from the external device.

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203. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein said connection recognizing step recognizes the device connection upon supplying power to the information processing apparatus.

204. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein the external device comprises a random access memory card.

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205. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein the external device comprises a read only memory card.

206. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein the information processing apparatus is a notebook personal computer.

207. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein the information processing apparatus is an electronic pocket book.

208. A storage medium according to Claim 199, wherein the information processing apparatus is an electronic camera.

209. A storage medium according to Claim 199, further comprising the step of storing the device driver read by said reading step in a memory.--.